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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

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BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of)
)
VoiceStream Wireless Corporation)
Powertel, Inc.)
)
Applications under Section 214 and 310(d) of)
the Communications Act of 1934, as amended,)
for transfer of control to Deutsche Telekom AG)

IB Docket No. 00-187

MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

I, the Honorable Ernest F. Hollings of the United States Senate, pursuant to Section 1.46(b) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.46 (b), hereby request a 30-day extension of the deadline to file initial and reply comments in the above-captioned proceeding.

I have a keen interest in the outcome of this proceeding. I have introduced legislation in the Senate, and testified before the House of Representatives, on the key issue being addressed in this proceeding; that is whether a foreign government-owned and controlled carrier like Deutsche Telekom (DT) should be allowed to own telecommunications facilities in the United States. I plan to file comments in this proceeding addressing this issue. Due to the need, however, to focus my energies during these last few weeks while Congress is in session on the critical budget and other legislative matters being voted, I will not have had the time necessary to prepare comments by the November 13th deadline. I am requesting a 30-day extension in order to give my staff and me the time to carefully analyze the market data and other information we already have gathered, and to engage in additional research if necessary.

Grant of an extension of time will serve the public interest because it will allow the FCC to develop a complete record in this proceeding. The FCC should not treat lightly the serious issues raised by a foreign government-owned and controlled DT gaining control of U.S. telecommunications licenses and infrastructure. I have worked with my fellow Senators and Congressmen to address some of these issues through the legislative process. During this

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time we have gathered significant information on the impact to the U.S. telecommunications industry of allowing foreign government ownership of U.S. telecommunications companies. This information is directly relevant to the above-captioned FCC proceeding and should become part of the record.

I am concerned, however, by the short pleading cycle established by the FCC. During the House's hearing on this topic, I heard both Chairman Kennard and members of the Executive Branch state that legislation is not needed to address questions of foreign government ownership; that these issues can be addressed through the FCC's merger application process. Yet the FCC has established a very short comment cycle -- the minimally required time period under the Communications Act -- for comments on these difficult issues. This is hardly enough time to prepare comments that address in an adequate manner the issues raised.

Therefore, I request that the FCC demonstrate its intent to scrutinize carefully these transactions by taking the steps necessary to develop a complete record. At a minimum, the first step should be to grant this 30-day extension of time request in order to give us, and all parties, the opportunity to fully present to the FCC the information it needs to make a reasoned decision on the merits of these applications.

Sincerely,


ERNEST F. HOLLINGS
U.S. Senate

Certificate of Service

I, Kevin Kayes, hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "Motion for Extension of Time" were sent by first-class mail, postage prepaid, on November 2, 2000 to the following:

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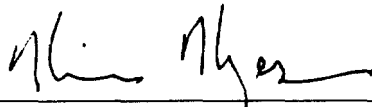
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